

Dresden

November. 15/1859.

My dear Papa

I received your two letters yesterday, the one answering uncle Goes letter and the other mine. I think the best thing for me will be to stay here till the 26 or 27 December and be in Dublin about the 10th January. I shall thus complete my year here - or rather my year on the continent, do the travelling and visiting during the holidays and be home in time for the January entrance, - that is if there be any object in entering at a public examination. You might ask Mr Ensell if there is anything that he would recommend me to look over for the entrance examination. The books that I shall take will of course be Homer I. II. III. and the Anabasis - in Latin Horaces Odes and the Aeneid. I fancy that I know sufficient English and Latin composition, arithmetic and algebra, to enter without further preparation, but I am ~~not~~ not so sure as to the English History and Geography. Dont forget to ask him about this.

Since Friday night we have had frost, and this at 8.30 it began to snow, now has it stopped yet or shown any sign of stopping - it is now 3.30 p.m. Everything is of course white.

Yesterday was Adoffs 19th birthday, and the number of bouquets in the house would have astonished you. I gave him a Dier's large map of Germany, a copy of which I have myself. In the evening we had a small party - mostly young American ladies, and a little dancing, more laughing and a great deal of row. Stockton and I had a set to with foils and masks when the company had departed, as a good ending for the party. He, and all Americans who I have yet seen fencing, poke and lounge in a regular ~~go ahead~~ ~~style~~ go ahead style, so that it is no more fencing but a row. However it makes fun and noise all the same, and that is all that seems expected.

Thursday 14. Last Tuesday morning it began to snow thickly and continued till the evening when there was about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch on the ground, there was little or no snow yesterday and this morning it is snowing again.

Dresden has assumed a winter aspect; all carriages and vehicles of every description have bells, this being required by law on account of the absence of noise, which would otherwise be dangerous - not that there is much driving for all that.

The ladies too come out in extra short dresses and smart boots; the gentlemen in fur coats and mufflers. The people all seem to enjoy ^{the snow} it greatly and the G's are anxious for a regular good fall, for they say that ~~there~~ ^{it} may as well be a foot deep as an inch, and it will not ~~require~~ require much more than we have now to bring out the sledges. By the way the American word "sleigh" pronounced "slay" is much prettier than sledge. There has been no frost yet hard enough to produce

ice fit for skating but I suppose that
it is not far off. I am to dine at
Carola Strasse to day and I think
Miss Preusser will be there too.

18. I have got a slight cold and uncle
Joe recommended me to stay at home to
day which I shall do accordingly; luckily
there is nothing to be done out of
doors so I do not lose anything by
it.

Francis E. Prendergast.